



Speak Up, Epping! Newsletter

Volume 13, Issue 3

Epping, New Hampshire

May-June 2020

About this Newsletter

This Newsletter is produced by the Speak Up, Epping! Communications Group. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide information about upcoming events and pertinent information from community organizations. Please note that no editorial, political or religious views will be accepted and the Communications Group reserves the right to edit submissions. If you would like to submit material for and/or receive this newsletter electronically, please visit our website at www.speakupepping.com

Check Out Our Newsletter Website

Be sure and check out our Speak Up, Epping! website: www.speakupepping.com. Each new issue of the Newsletter will be available by downloading it from the website. You can also access news from the issue separately by topic and find late-breaking news, past Newsletters, town links and calendars.

Also, check out our **Facebook** page! Join us for more late-breaking news and events that did not make our Newsletter deadline.

To our readers:

Because we're all staying-at-home in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are no regular meetings or events scheduled in May and June to post in the Newsletter. We hope that the stay-at-home order will be lifted soon and that there will be meetings and events scheduled to post. We'll publish the Newsletter again at that time. In the meantime, we can post events or announcements on our website, our Facebook page and can send information out to our mailing list.

Our thoughts are with all of you. Please take good care and stay safe.

From the Office of the Epping Board of Selectmen

To our fellow Epping Residents:

The Town through its Board of Selectmen and Emergency Management is committed to the continued health and optimal safety of our residents and employees and we intend to do our part to reduce the risk of the spread of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

There is little in recent historical precedent for this specific challenge and certainly no precise roadmap to follow. However, we do have in place an Emergency Operations Plan (EMP) that we have read, reviewed, honed and approved. We have executed that plan in years past with success. This plan appoints an Emergency Management Director (Fire Chief Don DeAngelis) who focuses and manages town resources on any given challenge. The plan allows the Director, when appropriate, to merge our resources with those of County, State and Federal agencies to combat our common concerns. The plan's execution is underway and we are highly confident that it provides us with the best possible odds for the best possible outcome.

As we face this unprecedented challenge, there may be some uncertainty of what this pandemic will cause. The road forward may be difficult, our resources strained. Nonetheless, we shall face this challenge as is our history; with courage, focus and a united and fierce resolve. We shall come together as residents, neighbors, friends and Americans. We shall rally around that which binds us and help one another through this.

It is for these reasons that the Board of Selectmen has closed the Epping Town Hall until further notice, understanding that doing so is a major inconvenience, however we feel it is the prudent thing to do at this time.

While public access to Town Hall is closed, staff will be checking phone messages and emails on a regular basis. We encourage you to call 679-5441 and select the department you need assistance from and leave a message.

Please refer to the Town website and Facebook for updates.

Respectfully,
Board of Selectmen

News From the Town

The Epping Town Hall will be closed until further notice.

The Memorial Day Parade is canceled.

Daniel "Dan" W. Harvey

August 5, 1920-April 17, 2020



Epping received sad news last week. Daniel Webster Harvey, 99, passed away peacefully at home with his family this last Wednesday. A lifelong resident of Epping, Dan has been so much a part of Epping for so long, it will be hard to imagine Epping without him, but we will have to. He will be greatly missed by all of us. The Speak Up, Epping! Newsletter has published two stories featuring Dan, one by Madelyn Williamson and one by Joy True. In memory of Dan, they are reprinted below.

From the January-February 2012 issue:

Reaching for the Stars from Tales of Epping's Past by Madelyn Williamson

Back in July, 1925, when Calvin Coolidge was in the White House and Dan Harvey was almost five years old here on Red Oak Hill, just seeing an airplane flying around Epping was a really rare event. So one can only imagine the excitement that summer day, as a massive object passed over our town. Measuring almost two football fields long and nearly 80 feet around, it was the world famous

airship "Shenandoah" on a flight to Bar Harbor from her home port of Lakehurst, New Jersey. She had been built there and christened "Shenandoah," an American Indian term meaning "Daughter of the Stars." She was the first rigid helium inflated airship in history and the first to cross North America, thus winning the hearts of Americans and aviation leaders everywhere. When the Shenandoah went down in a squall line over Ohio in September of that same year, it marked the world's greatest aviation disaster up to that time.

1925 was also the year that a rough-necked Lithuanian from Binghamton, New York married a girl from Epping, New Hampshire. He came here to live on Pleasant Street and swiftly became one of our town's more colorful citizens. Jack Sharkey was a Heavyweight Boxing Champion of the World and had some knockout tales of his own to tell. Here's one of them:

On the night of May 21, 1927, New York's Yankee Stadium was jammed with boxing fans all geared up for the elimination match between Jack and his longtime rival Jimmy Maloney. As the fighters stood in their corners waiting for the starting bell, the ring announcer suddenly asked everyone to observe a moment of prayer. "It got so quiet you could hear a pin drop." Jack recalled years later. That was the night when 30,000 people in Yankee Stadium got to their feet and bowed their heads as one for the safe landing of a young American pilot who at that very moment was flying alone across the vast Atlantic Ocean on his way to France.

Six other men had died trying, but Charles Lindbergh, an Air Mail pilot and Army Reserve Officer, was determined to win the \$25,000 prize for the first nonstop flight between New York and Paris, a distance of over 3,600 miles, in his single-engine plane named the Spirit of St. Louis. To reduce the plane's weight because of the extra fuel tanks, he had decided to fly without a radio, gas gauge, night-flying lights, navigation equipment, a co-pilot or even a parachute. With only a magnetic compass, airspeed, luck, prayers and five sandwiches, he flew 34 hours straight, a good part of it through snow and sleet. He landed safely through a foggy night on a Paris airfield to be met by the thunderous welcome of thousands of wildly cheering French. He was named "Lucky Lindy" and became a world famous hero. President Coolidge presented him with both the Distinguished Flying Cross and our highest military decoration, the

Congressional Medal of Honor.

Dan Harvey was about seven years old here in Epping when Lindy landed in Paris. His own interest in “those flying machines” had begun when one flew by his house on Red Oak Hill. By the time he was 18 years old, his father was still grumbling that anybody’s life in a plane depended “only on a darn fuel tank.” Nonetheless, two dollars meant fifteen minutes of flying lessons in Haverhill and Dan drove there for them in his old Buick with a door missing. He was his father’s only son, the only boy in an old farming family. To keep him happy and on the farm his father bought him a Piper Cub and a potato planting machine.

Then one cold February night in 1956, Dan was flying solo 3,000 feet above Boston Harbor and ran out of fuel. He managed to land safely on deserted Outer Brewster Island and built a fire to keep himself warm and attract attention to his plight. He found some crackers in his pocket and made a meal of them. Then he hunkered down for the night and woke up next morning to loud shouts of “Anybody there?!!” A U.S. Coast Guard boat had come to the rescue of Epping’s “Flying Farmer.” When he finally landed his plane here back home, he was welcomed by his much relieved family and friends from all over town. People affectionately began calling him “Lindy” to which he replied “No heroics here. Any fool can run out of gas.”

And so wherever life may take us, may we always land safely and never run out of fuel, matches- or crackers.

And from the September-October 2018 issue:

Dan Webster Harvey, the Flying Farmer, In Honor of Dan’s 98th Birthday by Joy True

Dan is a lifelong resident of Epping and proud holder of the Boston post cane. Dan has a lifelong love of flying, after seeing a plane land on a foggy morning at the Edgerly farm in 1938. This was an open cockpit bi-plane, and when the fog lifted, the pilot realized he had too much fuel on board to take off on the short field. So Dan helped draw off the gas in pails and milk jugs, so the pilot could take off. Dan decided that day he was going to fly! He took flying lessons at the Haverhill Airport, whenever he could scrape two dollars together. This paid for a fifteen-minute lesson, providing the weather was good, and he had his farm chores done. “When I headed for the airport, my father expected me to return in a box.”

Dan bought his plane in 1949, a 1939 Piper Cub, and he paid only \$175.00. He took the plane to Hampton Airport to “make it legal,” but the mechanic told Dan the plane was not fit to be fixed, or to fly. Dan flew the plane home, found an A&E man, who did the updates for only \$170.00 and two barrels of cider.

Later, Dan purchased the Aeronca that he was flying when he ran out of gas, heading home from Hyannis, Mass. “The “durn” motor just upped and quit, I turned around and made a dead stick landing.” He landed on Outer Brewster Island, off the coast. This was in February 1956, and it was cold with snow on the ground. He secured the plane and scouted around for wood to start a fire for rescue, but also to keep warm. It was 10 hours before the fire was spotted, and the Coast Guard came to take him to the mainland. All Dan wanted was some gas for the plane, so he could get home to milk the cows. Dan had to get permission to take off from the Island, but the officials said no. The Coast Guard would not take Dan back to the Island, but a man nearby said he would. Dan gassed up, did a flight check, and with the help from the boater and the newspaper reporters, the plane was jockeyed into position for takeoff. The reporters hoped to see him crash, but Dan was a good pilot, and made a great takeoff.

Census Information

The 2020 Census will be taken this year. The census is done every 10 years, and is safe, easy and important!! The information given determines the number of seats each state has in the US House of Representatives. The census defines congressional and state legislative and school districts, along with voting precincts. The population numbers decide the allocation of federal funds to programs like Medicaid, school lunch programs, foster care and others.

The 2020 Census uses cybersecurity to keep all information secure. Information is never shared, as doing so is a serious federal crime. There are four ways to respond in 2020: online, phone, paper or a personal visit. Residents will never be asked for Social Security numbers, money or donations, political party or bank information. Everyone will be contacted shortly and your Board of Selectmen is encouraging everyone’s participation. They have agreed to spread the word and help with the 2020 Census.

There are also plenty of job opportunities with the Census Bureau paying \$20-\$25 dollars an hour with reimbursement for mileage. Offering flexible hours and training: Apply online at 2020CENSUS.GOV/JOBS or 1-855-JOB-2020.

More information will be posted on the Town website.

Submitted by Joyce Blanchard

Cell Phones for Our Troops

Donate your old cell phone.

More than 150,000 troops are serving overseas and are away from their families. Please make a donation of your old cell phone so they can call home, providing these soldiers with a much needed connection to their loved ones. There is a drop-off box at the Epping Town Hall for your convenience.

The Pease Greeters Need Our Help!

The Pease Greeters, hundreds of volunteers, meet our Armed Forces any time of day or night, as they pass through Pease International Airport on their way to a war zone or on their way home. For more than eleven years, Greeters have welcomed service members on every flight with a warm meal and beverage, small gifts, a cell phone to call home and a hearty round of applause. And for that we give the Greeters our warmest and most sincere thanks.

They also send Christmas stockings to our Troops overseas. The Pease Greeters care package team recently completed the momentous task of stuffing 2,480 Christmas stockings with goodie bags and holiday cards to send to active military overseas.

Throughout the year, the greeters seek donations of toiletries, individually packed food items and "fun stuff" like small toys. There are donation sites throughout Portsmouth, Dover, Hampton, Greenland and Concord. Please contact peasegreetercarepackages@gmail.com for further information about the care package program.

The Pease Greeters began welcoming flights in 2005 and a few months ago reached the milestone of having welcomed 1000 flights. Recently, the number of flights through Pease has increased and the Pease Greeters are in need of **monetary help**. We need to support our service men and women any way we can. If you can give any amount, please make a check payable to Pease Greeters and send or drop it off to Joyce at the Town Hall.

To learn more about the Pease Greeters, sign up for flight alerts or to make a contribution, visit www.peasegreeters.org.

Senior Moments

All of us are in the same situation as the rest of you. Good luck with that and we promise to have lots to tell you again when we can.

We wish for everyone to stay safe and we hope to see you this summer.

Irene R. Cote, Secretary

More Thanks to Lorraine

Lorraine Bateman of Epping belongs to the Epping Seniors. She is continuing to crochet hats for service men and women. The updated number: as of April 25, 2020, she has made 884 hats and she is still going strong! Many thanks, Lorraine!

Epping Community Theater

There will be no classes and no productions at the Epping Community Theater until further notice.



Epping Lions Club

"We Serve"

We Want YOU to Join the Epping Lions Club

<https://www.facebook.com/EppingsLionsClub>

We continue to solicit and accept applications for assistance from the Epping community for hearing and/or vision issues (exams, frames, lenses, etc.). We have continued to help those in need, now continuing our 11th year of service in Epping.

There will be no meetings until further notice.

Deb Brooks, President

lexusreina@comcast.net

Cheryl Denoncour, Treasurer

cdenoncour@gmail.com

Colleen Palmer, Secretary

colleenmariepalmer@hotmail.com

Epping Historical Society

I really do not have anything to contribute this month. Like everyone else, we are closed, but I still make appointments, as long as we keep our distance from each other.

I spend time there, but I do not put out the flag. I sure miss having the volunteers coming in. These are very trying times for everyone.

Hope we are back to "normal" before the July/August edition.

Stay healthy!

To call for an appointment, call 679-2944; phone number is available 7 days a week.

Submitted by Joy True, curator, Epping Historical Society
joysgarden@hotmail.com

The Civil War Roundtable of NH

For information on the Roundtable and a complete schedule of meetings and news, please visit the web site: www.cwrt-nh.org or email cwrtnh@gmail.com.

Our meetings are canceled until further notice.

The Epping Grange

There will be no Epping Grange meetings until further notice.

Nature Talks

What can we say about these unprecedented times and the warm, spring temps? It's a good time to get outside! As this is written, we are all still in lockdown mode, but even if the economy is open when you read this, getting outside is still a great way to spend your time. Until then, when you visit the trails, it's important to follow the social distancing guidelines and stay 6 feet away from others who might have or be carrying the virus. And, please let us know if you're interested in helping to build or maintain trails – eppingoutdoors@gmail.com.

East Epping If you'd like to take a short walk by the river, check out *Tilton Woods*, Route 87 and the Lamprey. Three bridges were installed to make this more passable in the spring. At *Fox Run Conservation Area*, Towle Rd, you'll find a swing set, see saw, basketball court, and pond. For a virtual field trip to Fox Run, check out these [360° videos](#) from the ABC trail. Sad to say, the geocache at Fox Run with all its contents was recently stolen. Please do your part to take care of our public spaces so that everyone can enjoy them! The *Mast Road Conservation Area* is a SELT property and offers a beautiful trail through the woods.

George Falls Woods, off Jacobs Well Road in east Epping, is 14 acres and home to a nice trail

down by the river. It was the site of an old hunting camp with remnants of the chimney and logs still existing. The entrance area needs a bit of work, so include some time to find the trailhead on the west side of the property. The sign for the area is small and near the middle of the property. There is plenty of room to put all four tires off the road there, but no well-defined parking area. If you want a little bit of adventure, this might be for you! Be sure to let us know if you're interested in helping to pick up some trash there and/or improve accessibility.

West Epping The Rockingham Rail Trail runs through the *John B Folsom Conservation Area*, Joshua Ln, and offers a nice view of the river. Additionally, *Folsom has trails perfect for mountain biking and running*.

2020 ECC Photo Contest Taking photos is another great way to enjoy the outdoors this spring and summer. What better way to socially distance than getting out solo and taking some nature photos around Epping! More information on contest rules and how to submit photos to the Epping Conservation Commission can be found in the *News and Events* Section at <http://www.eppingoutdoors.com>.

Submitted by Liz Wilson and Sandy Goodspeed

Lamprey River Advisory Committee Lamprey River Guide to COVID-19 Social Distancing

Like many groups, the Lamprey River Advisory Committee (LRAC) had several events and presentations planned for this spring. Until we get the "all clear" signal from the health experts, group activities will need to wait. Fortunately, the Lamprey River offers many places to visit where crowds are not a problem. Even if you are sequestered inside, we can offer some river-related entertainment.

For outside trips, the following sites provide nice views of the river and historic remains of mills that you can explore:

1. Mary Blair Park, Route 27 in West Epping
2. Wadleigh Falls, Route 152 in Lee
3. Hatch Park at Wiswall Falls, Wiswall Road in Durham

The LRAC has helped other sites that are accessible to the public and have walking trails:

1. Lamprey River Elementary School Eco Trail, Old Manchester Road in Raymond (behind the school, open only when school is not in session)
2. Mast Road Natural Area, Mast Road in Epping
3. Little River Park, Route 155 in Lee
4. Thompson Forest, Wednesday Hill Road in Durham

For those who want to hug some old-timers without risking anyone's health, the Lamprey River Big Tree Tour will guide you to some of the area's champion trees:

<https://www.lampreyriver.org/recreation-lamprey-river-big-tree-tour>.

For kids who want to explore the river and earn a badge, the Junior Rangers program can be done at home with help from family members.

The free Junior Rangers booklet is available at www.LampreyRiver.org/for-fun-junior-rangers.



For folks who are stuck inside or for days that are wet and dreary, we have several videos posted on our website, www.LampreyRiver.org.

For bicycle enthusiasts, our recreation map and tour guide highlights a scenic path (in yellow) that passes by many of the river's highlights while avoiding traffic.

https://www.lampreyriver.org/UploadedFiles/Files/LampreyTourMap_page_1.pdf

To everybody, we wish you good health, patience, and compassion

Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association Gets Grant to Help Find and Remove Invasive Variable Milfoil

Variable milfoil is an aggressive, invasive freshwater plant that is fouling New England's lakes and ponds. It spreads rapidly both by seeds and by rooting of pieces that break off from the parent plant. Unlike native species of milfoil that grow slowly and don't get tall, this plant is fast-growing and can reach 15 feet in height. No local animals eat it and it can quickly take over and crowd out native plants. When it dies back at the end of the

growing season, it decays, resulting in murky water and a foul odor. This plant is an enemy of clean water, good fishing and swimming.



variable milfoil stem and cross section

The Pawtuckaway Lake Improvement Association has been working hard for years to contain and remove variable milfoil from the lake. It has been a difficult process, but so far they have succeeded in keeping the infestation at a very low level. Human divers look for the plants under water, which is difficult with low visibility and moving water.

If plants are found, the diver returns to the surface to gather flags to mark the spot, but finding the plants again can be difficult. Removing the plants cannot be done by untrained amateurs; each plant must be removed carefully so that the plant remains as intact as possible and any pieces that break off must be captured. The process is labor intensive and time consuming. Underwater visual surveillance is not possible for the entire lake using divers alone.

The dedicated group of lake volunteers applied for a grant that will pay for side-scan sonar and the associated software. The equipment will allow the detection team to scan large areas of the lake from the surface quickly and accurately, including areas that were impossible to assess until now. For side-scan sonar, detecting variable milfoil is like looking for trees on a grassland... easy! The greatly improved detection will facilitate removal. Water from the lake is routinely released to the Lamprey River through two dams. Better control of the milfoil in the lake will greatly improve the chances that the Lamprey River will remain free of this nuisance plant. We are happy to help our partners in protecting clean water, resilient ecology and enjoyable water-based recreation.

Please do your part to help prevent the spread of variable milfoil. Avoid disturbing areas that are known to have variable milfoil, so that you don't cause fragments to break off and migrate to new

sites. Assume that any pond, lake or river impoundment could have variable milfoil (or other invasive plants) and make sure ALL plant fragments are removed from boat propellers, paddles, fishing gear, etc. anytime you exit the water.



*Helping communities protect the
Lamprey River.
Submitted by Suzanne Petersen*

Epping Garden Club



We would like to thank all of the residents who purchased their Pansy Bowls through us. Without all of you, there would be no way for us to make the town a little prettier to pass through.

With everyone now taking walks, please think about grabbing a trash bag and gathering the trash from the route you take. It seems to be everywhere and you could do your part in keeping our town beautiful, please. Yes, it should not be our job to pick up after others but if we don't, then who?

Submitted by Eunice Miller



ETV Schedule

No Town meetings will be carried on Channel 22 until further notice.

Please consult the ETV Bulletin Board, Channel 22 or the Town website for any changes, updates or announcements

When meetings resume, please note the new website for ETV: etv22.viebit.com. This is where you will find past meetings. You will also find live video streaming.

The ETV email remains the same:
eppingtv22@gmail.com.



Scouting Around Epping

All activities in Cub Scout Pack 136 and Boy Scout Troop 136 are canceled until further notice.

4-H Community Update

Hello 4-H Community Members and Happy Friday!

It's so great to see signs of Spring...blue skies, warmer weather, and buds starting to appear all around us. I hope everyone is getting outside to enjoy all the wonderful activities New Hampshire has to offer. We welcomed a new puppy into our family today, so I imagine I'll be spending a lot of time outside!

We know that the fate of our local fairs is heavy on everyone's mind, especially those in our various animal science project areas. Many of you have also heard by now that there have been several fairs canceled by the local fair board associations. The 4-H program is committed to the safety of its participants, their families and the public during this unprecedented situation. NH 4-H leadership supports the fair board's decision and is developing alternative opportunities for our youth and families, both virtually and in safe, in-person sessions once the stay at home order is lifted.

Stay safe, healthy and well

*Kate Guerdat, Ed.D
State 4-H Leader*



Epping Fire Department

Hello Epping!

In this issue, we will talk about what is going on at the Fire Station during the COVID-19 pandemic, about Fire safety for late spring and early summer and a brief update on what is going on in the Town for developments.

COVID-19 / Fire Department Operations.

It sure is a different time with this pandemic that has rocked our world and country. I know there have been other minor pandemics in the past such as Ebola, SARS and the flu. Most of you are working from home and have to juggle teaching or assisting your children with their homework, as well as feeding your family. Some of you might even be unemployed or furloughed. I pray that we are all

back to work and on our feet shortly. We shall overcome this soon, and hopefully have a sense of normalcy. Since the winter was mild, and spring arrived early, I have noticed a surge in burn permits as people clean up their yards. Permits are required and available online at NHfirepermits.com. Since people are home, this is a good time for spring cleaning and getting rid of clutter or finishing long overdue projects around your property and home.

The Fire Station on Pleasant Street is the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the Town. We have an average of 5 to 9 cases according to the WMUR Channel 9 ticker. The Fire Chief is the Emergency Management Director and the EOC was set up in early March to prepare the Town for the surge and peak of the virus. The Chief has promoted a Deputy Chief to an Assistant Chief and a Captain to a Deputy. These are part time members who have, along with many others stepped up to run the Department during this time. We are also running with an extra member per shift and have had to adjust the way we respond and treat people who are in need of medical attention. Daily requirements and medical protocols are sent out twice a day.

Emergency calls are down. Usually we average about 7 to 10 calls a day and lately it's been 2 or 3 at most. We are still ahead on calls from last year this time. Since we have the help, a lot of overdue projects are getting done around the station. Decontamination and sanitation are done multiple times around the clock and we are taking temperatures before and after working, along with changing out our clothes at the end of our shifts. This way we don't bring it home to our families. I think New Hampshire was way ahead of the curve and better prepared than other states. I personally believe the virus was in this country way before we ever knew it, probably around Thanksgiving, but I don't have much data to prove it otherwise. The biggest thing you and your family can do is to stay home if you're sick, isolate yourself and call your local doctor if your symptoms get worse. Wash your hands thoroughly and wipe down and clean any surface that is used, such as counter tops, toilets, door knobs, refrigerator handles. Avoid out of state people and visiting friends or keep a social distance of 6 feet.

The stay-at-home order and social distancing ensure we stay safe and illness free. You can be asymptomatic which means you can be contagious

and spread the virus without having any symptoms. The coronavirus is similar to the Norovirus and SARS which can also have flu like symptoms (nausea, vomiting, dizziness, fever, chills). The problem is the coronavirus is very contagious and anyone with underlying health issues such as heart disease, respiratory illnesses, diabetes or immune deficiencies can get very ill or worse, die. The elderly have a weakened immunity, so most of the deaths are in older people and in those with underlying health issues. If you have elderly parents or grandparents, you should keep in contact by phone or from a distance. Many people have been shopping for them so they can stay home where they are safe. I recommend wearing a mask out in public.

Spring and Summer Safety Tips.

As I said earlier, burn and fire permits are required and you can retrieve them online at NHfirepermits.com. We try to keep the fire danger posted at the Pleasant Street Station to show how wet or dry the conditions are. Fires can only be burned after 5 pm unless it's raining. Campfires and pits should be at least 25 feet away from any structure and brush piles should be 50 feet away. Spring cleaning is in the air, and it's a good time to clean up any unwanted stuff in your home. Home projects are in full swing with the stay-at-home order. You should always hire a professional and licensed contractor for plumbing, heating or electrical work. Always make sure the power is off before doing any minor electrical work. Grill safety is a major thing in the summer. I personally love to grill, but you must be 3 to 5 feet away from a building. Grills on apartments and condominiums must be on the ground and away from the building. You CANNOT have a grill on a back deck or porch of any of these complexes per State law. Any landlord is responsible for notifying their tenants of this law. Never leave a grill unattended. Keep children out of reach of the area where you are grilling and shut off the gas when you're done cooking.

Fireworks can be exciting to use but must be kept away from children and buildings. They are legal in town. Make sure to keep an eye on your pets and visitors when using them, I don't recommend pets at any fireworks displays. I hear too many sad stories of dogs and other animals getting lost due to people bringing them to these events.

Always gas or fuel any powered units such as lawn mowers, chain saws, and weed trimmers outside before starting and refueling. Gas vapors can ignite quickly and cause a fire. Fuel gas containers on the ground and never transport them in the passenger compartment. Always secure them to the bed of a pickup or in a trunk. Wear appropriate footwear and safety gear. Flip-flops give no protection from a lawn mower. Sneakers, boots, gloves, Kevlar chaps, helmet, and eye protection will save a trip to the local doctor and emergency room.

Town Developments.

The budget passed (Thank you to all who voted!), which will set up a water line from Fremont road out to West Epping and will include fire hydrants. A water line is also being installed up Route 27 towards Brentwood. These will allow the town to have more access to public water and give the Fire Department another avenue for water supply for fires. Apartment complexes are being built on Ladds Lane across from the Epping Playhouse. The Playhouse and apartments will have working sprinkler systems. Sprinkler and Fire alarm systems are required for any housing larger than two families. A few solar farms have been looking into Epping to install for increasing energy demand. I will keep all of you informed about these projects as they evolve. Other developments have come to the Board and are being built such as one on Pleasant Street across from Ledgewood Drive. There is another one going in behind the old piggery on Pleasant Street as well. Another small development has been looked into on Jenness Road. The Apple orchards have two remaining cul-de-sacs in place and are being built fast. A small development is finishing up off Delaney Road called Hidden Meadow Lane. It has a cistern as well as residential sprinkler systems installed in all but a duplex.

Old Navy is proposed to go into Brickyard Square after Famous Footwear is moved to the Old Paper store location. Even with the pandemic, we are still busy reviewing plans for dry hydrants and fire alarm and sprinkler systems to make sure they are designed and installed to the proper code. Firefighter access and use is also a consideration when we look at the plans. More complex systems can be overwhelming in the middle of the night.

I appreciated the fact that you all took the time to read the Speak Up, Epping! Newsletter. I will

speak about more summer safety and any updates on COVID-19 as well as other information for the public in the next issue. Wash your hands, stay safe and always know we are here for you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Respectfully,

Lieutenant Paul St Cyr

Fire Prevention Officer and 9-11 Liaison.

American Legion News Monthly Breakfast Buffets

Monthly Second Sunday Buffets are canceled until further notice.

Epping Community Church

Our church service has changed a little bit from what we're used to. It is still at 9:00 am every Sunday morning, but you will find it on Facebook Live. You can also find it afterward at Eppingcommunitychurch.org. We do miss being able to gather in person but can still worship together and pray together and commune together online. Please feel free to join us as we listen to what the Lord has to say to us.

We have not scheduled any dinners yet for May or June. The Soup of the Day Café is also currently closed. If this changes we will announce on Facebook as well as on our sign.

Our food pantry is open on Saturday from 8-10 am at the side door off the driveway. We are placing bags and other items outside on our porch. We are asking that people come to the porch one at a time and take what you need.

Also at the pantry we have two Pop Up Library bins with books that are bagged from the elementary school. Mrs. Rossel and Mrs. True brought these to the food pantry to make sure that all children are able to have books to bring home and keep. These are free to anyone that would like to share with their children or grandchildren.

As always, if you are in need, please come to the food pantry for help. We do not ask questions...we just want to help. If you find that you need help, you can call the church at 679-5542 and leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Meals on Wheels continues to deliver out of the church. If you know a senior who is in need of a delivered meal call 679-1609 and leave a message.

Stay safe...stay healthy and God bless you all!

St. Joseph Catholic Church

208 Pleasant St. (Rte 27)

Epping, NH 03042

Office telephone: 679-8805

While we are unable to join them in person, Fr. Don Clinton & Deacon Terry will offer **Sunday Mass at 10:00 am**. And we will have an opportunity to join them via the Internet. Beginning at 10:00 am, this Mass will be streamed Live on a new parish YouTube Channel.

So gather your family around the computer to view the Mass and simply go to the Parish Website at <https://stjosepheppingnh.com/> and click on the small red YouTube icon in the upper right corner or you will be able to go directly to: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQkU5g5IVCk1zLR0UY9tXWg?view_as=subscriber.

If you have any questions, please call the Rectory Office at 679-8805 or check our website at <http://stjosepheppingnh.com> for further information.



Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library

Epping's Public Library

151 Main Street

734-4587 (Adult Dept.)

679-5944 (Youth Dept.)

679-5884 (Fax)

harvmitch@gmail.com

www.eppinglibrary.com

Youth Dept. e-mail: hmmlyouth@gmail.com

Youth Dept. Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/eppinglibrary>

Hours: Monday, Friday – 10 - 5

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday – 10 - 8

Saturday – 10 - 2

Sundays – 12 - 4

The Library will be closed until further notice.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Harvey-Mitchell Memorial Library have canceled their monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 6th. Our meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm at the Library. Hopefully, we will be able to meet on June 3rd.

Our second annual Center of the Universe BrewFest, planned for Saturday, August 15th at the

New England Dragway, has not yet been canceled. We are currently in a wait-and-see mode.

Check the Library's website for meeting and event updates at www.eppinglibrary.com

If you are running out of books, you might want to consider LibriVox for free public domain audio books. You can listen to books being read by volunteers from around the world at Librivox.org

Submitted by Pat VanWagoner

Epping Parks & Recreation

Home of the "River Otters"

Director: Nicole Bizzaro

Recreation Dept. Main Phone Number: 679-3006

or email at eppingrecreation@gmail.com.

Address:

17 Academy Street

Epping, NH 03042

Mailing address:

157 Main Street

Epping, NH 03042

Join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

If you need to reach the Department, please contact Nicole, Recreation Director via email at eppingrecreation@gmail.com or call Watson Academy: 679-3006 or Program Cellphones: 608-9016 or 608-9076.

There will be no activities at the Recreation Department until further notice.

Families First

support for families...health care for all

Here is the

link <https://www.familiesfirstseacoast.org/family-programs/parenting-classes-family-groups/> to our Family Center page. It outlines the different kinds of Virtual support we are offering at Families First, and the text is below. We have online parent and grandparent support groups open to all.

Here is the link to the online calendar https://www.familiesfirstseacoast.org/calander/?tribe-bar-date=&tribe_eventcategory=49,37,48,38 with Zoom meeting links for those groups.

The groups have been small so far but are really fun and a great way to connect with other parents. Hopefully more people will find them.

Epping Students in the News

University of NH Dean's List for 2019 Fall semester
Highest Honors

Callin Buswell
Marc-Anthony Gludice
Brandi McKay
Destiny McKay
Sabrina Patterson

High Honors

Drake Dumont
Ryan Gallagher
Brooke Hall
Adam LePage
Garrett Snyder

Honors

Rachel Martin
Zyan Prestridge

Regis College announces Dean's List for 2019 Fall semester

Jessica Gosselin

Endicott College announces Dean's List for 2019 Fall semester

Jennifer Nikolova

Olivia Goodrich is completing Colby-Sawyer's internship requirement this spring with Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon majoring in exercise science.

Konrad Hodgman was named to Ashland University's Dean's List and the University's Alexander Hamilton Society for the fall 2019 semester majoring in history. He is also a member of the falconry team and of the college Democrats.

Epping Elementary School (EES) 2020-2021 Kindergarten Registration and Orientation

s. Our team continues to think about how to best structure these important activities. The uncertainties of the pandemic have compelled us to postpone the scheduled activities.

If your family has a student who will be joining us next year (and you haven't yet done so), please send an email to Dr. Benna (jbenna@eppingsd.org) as we will be sending out information by email as dates and times are scheduled/rescheduled. Please feel free to let your friends and neighbors know too!

We usually have a 5th grade transition to Middle School parent information evening, but I don't know if that will happen.

Submitted by Cheryl Macleay

A Pandemic Prayer

*May we who are merely inconvenienced
Remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors
Remember those most vulnerable
May we who have the luxury of working
from home
Remember those who must choose between
preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for
our children when their schools close
Remember those who have no options
May we who have to cancel our trips
Remember those who have no safe place to go
May we who are losing our margin money
in the tumult of the economic market
Remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home
Remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country
Let us choose love.
During this time when we cannot physically
wrap our arms around each other
Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace
of God to our neighbors,
Amen.*

Email Address Changed?

If your email address has changed, please notify Barbara Helmstetter at: bhelmstetter@comcast.net.

Newsletter Schedule

Have we missed your group or event? Please let us know. Our purpose is to include as many Epping groups and events as possible.

The next issue (**July-August 2020**) of this newsletter will be available **on July 1, 2020**. We will accept **submissions through June 25, 2020**, to be included in the next issue. Please send your content with contact information for consideration to bhelmstetter@comcast.net.

If you would like your next event to appear on the Calendar of Events, please send us an email at bhelmstetter@comcast.net by **June 25, 2020**. Please include date, event name, location and time.

Thanks for reading!

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